(ii) Stricter access control and thorough pre-embarkation security checks;

(iii) Deployment of CISF and Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs);

(iv) Screening of baggage.

Old and unfit aricrafts in IA and Alliance Airlines

628. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines and Alliance Airlines have been using aircraft which are very old and unfit for safe journey;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith their age and flying hours; and

(c) the amount spent on their maintenance during the last three years and on the purchase of new aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no life specified for modern aircraft. These aircraft can fly as long as they are certified airworthy in accordance with the procedures laid down by DGCA and the manufacturers.

(c) The amount spent by the Indian Airlines on the maintenance of aircraft, *i.e.* on aircraft spares/components and outside repairs for the last five years is given below:

Year	Amount (Rs. Crores)
1997-98	517
1998-99	498
1999-00	588
2000-01	684
2001-02 (Provisional)	681

Indian Airlines has not purchased new aircraft during the last five years.

Appointment of IAS officer in I.A.

629. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present CMD of Indian Airlines was also associated with the Airlines performance during the last five

years in his capacity as Joint Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for appointing IAS officer in Indian Airlines instead of the technocrat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The present Chairman and Managing Director, Indian Airlines Ltd. was Joint Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation *w.e.f.* 14th December, 1999 till 12th June, 2002. He also held the additional charge of the post of Chairman & Managing Director, Indian Airlines *w.e.f.* 26.5.2000 till 12th June, 2002.

(c) Necessary action was initiated by the Ministry of Civil Aviation for filling up the post of Chairman and Managing Director, Indian Airlines, which was to fall vacant on 26.5.2000. However, Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) was unable to select a suitable candidate. It was felt that Indian Airlines needed a full time Chairman & Managing Director, keeping in view the competitive market scenario and the overall interests of the Company. It was, therefore, decided to appoint the present incumbent as full time CMD, IAL *w.e.f.* 12.6.2002 for a period of three years keeping in view his good performance as officating CMD.

Carrying of passengers by IA and Jet Airways

630. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Jet Airways had carried more number of passengers with less number of aircrafts as compared to Indian Airlines which has a large number of aircrafts;

(b) if so, the details of number of fleets of Indian Airlines and Jet Airways;

(c) whether Indian Airlines propose to purchase more aircrafts during the next two years; and